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pieces baggage, passed. June 14, American Line steamship *Waesland*, for Philadelphia, 4 second-cabin, and 49 steerage passengers, with 58 pieces baggage, passed.

Respectfully,

J. H. OAKLEY,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

JAPAN.

Status of plague.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *June 2, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that since May 25, the date of my last report, cases of plague have been returned as follows: At Osaka, May 24, 1; May 26, 2; May 30, 1. In Shidzuoka Ken, at 3 different points, May 22, 1; May 25, 1; May 29, 1; May 30, 1; and May 31, 1. This makes a total since the renewed outbreak of the disease of 38 cases, 29 at Osaka and 9 in Shidzuoka Ken. The case in quarantine at Nagasaki, reported in my last, has been followed by no second.

Disease of a suspicious character has been reported also from Akita Ken. in the extreme northern portion of Nippon, on May 25, and from Nara, a city near Osaka, on May 31. The Akita case is almost certainly not one of plague.

It is announced that the authorities of Osaka are about to attempt the immunization of the entire population of the city by the use of Haffkine's prophylactic. Should this experiment be carried out under correct conditions, it will afford an almost unexampled test of the value of the treatment.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Quarantine regulations against plague.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *June 1, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May 3, 1900, requesting me to forward recent reports of the Japanese Government as to methods employed in combating the plague, which you understand to have been published in English, and also asking for copies of Professor Kitasato's latest report on the bacillus pestis.

In reply I would say that I have no knowledge of any such reports of the Japanese Government as you speak of and know of no recent report of Professor Kitasato on the plague bacillus. I have, however, communicated with the home department and with Professor Kitasato and will notify you of the result of my applications as soon as possible.

Meanwhile I inclose a copy of the regulations for the management of plague, being those which were adopted at the first outbreak of the disease at Kobe and Osaka last winter, originally drawn up by the Japanese sanitary officials and slightly modified later by the acceptance of some of the suggestions made by the advisory board of foreign physicians, of the organization of which I notified you under date December 28, 1899.

These regulations are, in all essentials, those which are now in force in this ken, and are, practically, adopted in other districts as well,

although I believe some question has arisen, as the result of laboratory experiments, as to the value of acid sulphuric as a germicide.

The health guilds referred to are ward organizations, partly a survival of the old feudal institutions, are composed of the master of the ward and a committee of citizens, and are expected to keep themselves informed as to the condition of their districts and to cooperate with the police and the sanitary officials of the Government.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure—Translation.]

HOME DEPARTMENT, *December 21, 1899.*

The following rules, now enforced in the city of Kobe, should be enforced in any locality where the pest has appeared.

First. Strictly isolate patients suffering or suspected to be suffering from pest.

Second. Segregate strictly all healthy persons found in the house where a case of pest has occurred, including any recent visitors to the house.

Third. Make thorough and complete disinfection.

Fourth. Enforce house-to-house visitation and personal examination of inmates in all poor localities, "kichinyado" (low class lodging houses), etc., and make every possible effort to discover cases of pest under any circumstances.

Fifth. Station physicians in all principal railway stations, taking proper precautions should any case of pest be found there.

Sixth. Make every effort to catch and destroy house rats.

Seventh. Pay special attention to watching carefully all places crowded with people, such as factories, workshops, theaters, etc.

Eighth. Destroy all rubbish by fire.

Ninth. Make strict medical inspection of shipping daily.

The foregoing precautionary measures, now in operation in Kobe, will be put in force in Yokohama immediately on the outbreak of pest.

*Instructions as to precautionary measures against pest issued by the governor of Kanagawa
Ken December 9, 1899.*

SECTION I. In every locality from which communication with infected places, either by land or sea, is possible the following instructions shall be carried out without delay:

First. All hospitals for infectious disease, and all houses for isolation of suspects, must be supplied at once with all necessary equipment. In addition to this, segregation camps for the well who may have been exposed to infection must be provided, and hospitals, isolation quarters, and segregation camps must be connected with the police stations by telephone.

Second. Preparations for the examination and treatment of pest patients must be made by the engagement of physicians, nurses, laborers, etc., and the equipment of these with all needful apparatus and material, such as disinfectants and the like. So far as possible sanitary laborers should form a permanent staff, a certain number being trained for disinfection of buildings and effects, others for transportation of the sick, the dead, and infected materials. These men should be kept for, and exercised in, one line of work. This staff should be lodged and retained at the segregation camp.

Third. Make every effort to prevent the dissemination of infection by continuous and strict enforcement of all cleansing measures, including the thorough ventilation of and admission of light and sun to houses.

Fourth. See that the following new articles are added to the by-laws of the health guilds of the various wards, and that all the regulations of these guilds are strictly enforced.

(a) So far as practicable, restrict all unnecessary communication with infected districts, either by land or sea.

(b) See that all persons arriving from places infected by pest are immediately reported to the chairman of the guilds; and that the condition of health and the movements of such persons are carefully watched during a period of ten days from the time at which they left the infected locality, subjecting them to medical examination by an official physician if deemed necessary.

(e) Make every effort to catch and destroy by fire rats and insects, such as fleas, lice and flies, infesting dwelling houses. Do not, however, handle these animals with bare hands.

(d) Forbid the entrance into houses of any pilgrims, peddlers, or beggars who may have been in pest-infected places.

(e) Instruct all people to expose no part of the body to injury, so far as possible, especially by going barefoot, and to be careful not to receive, or, if received, quickly to treat, even any slight wounds, such as chilblains, chaps, hangnails, and the like.

(f) Instruct the people not to handle or purchase any old clothing, wadding, rags, etc., the origin and history of which are unknown.

(g) The chairmen and members of the committee of the health guilds should frequently inspect the districts in which they serve, reporting to the police, or to the city, town or village officials, whenever any person arrives from any infected place, as well as when he left the infected locality.

SEC. II. The following measures must be enforced upon the detection of any case of pest:

First. Send the patient, or patients, immediately to the infectious disease hospital, or, if merely suspicious, to the isolation quarters, with their effects, for proper treatment.

Second. Whenever it is at all possible to do so, destroy by fire the house first infected in any district, with its contents, after surrounding it with a close, high, temporary fence of wire netting to prevent the escape of rats.

When not burned down, houses in which pest has broken out should be disinfected according to the following methods:

(a) Collect and destroy by fire all clothing, carpets, mats or matting, and any pieces of cloth or paper, etc., which have been used by the patients, as well as any other articles which can be supposed to be infected, after having thoroughly sprinkled or wetted them with sublimate solution. Valuable clothing or bedding may, however, be disinfected by prolonged boiling in water or by steam in a proper apparatus, which must always be in working order at the segregation camp.

(b) All articles, such as furniture and the like, not coming under the previous article should be exposed to the sun outside of the house for at least two days, after having been washed with sublimate solution. All rubbish on or beneath the floors should also be collected and burned.

(c) The room in which the patient lay, as well as any others suspected of being infected, should be thoroughly washed with sublimate solution.

(d) Disinfect the vessels for receiving feces or urine with solution of sulphuric acid, 1-2000, and the ground beneath the floor and any unfloored spaces with the same.

Third. Remove all apparently healthy inmates, with their effects, at once from an infected house to the segregation camp, or if there is none, to some house in a suitable locality selected for this purpose.

(a) Disinfect either by prolonged boiling in water or by steam in a proper apparatus, all clothing or bedding used by the patient within fifteen days previous to the manifestation of the disease in him, as well as the clothing and bedding used by the other inmates of the house. This disinfection must be done at the segregation camp.

(b) Cause all inmates of the infected house to take baths, using soap, and then to put on clean, disinfected clothes. After the bath their bodies must be wiped with a cloth soaked in sublimate solution, 1-10000. These baths should be given at the segregation camp and the water used thrown away after having added to it some pure sulphuric acid.

Fourth. Apply the whole, or so much as may seem necessary, of the preceding 2 articles to houses which have had communication with that in which pest has broken out.

Fifth. Thoroughly clean, and disinfect with sulphuric acid solution, all water-closets, drains, rubbish boxes, and other unclean places, of every house comprised within the limits of isolation, and collect from the same all rubbish, burning it in a proper place.

Sixth. Within the isolation limits cleanse the houses every day, taking especial pains to catch and kill all rats and such insects as lice, fleas, bedbugs, and flies, endeavoring to prevent their escape outside of the isolated area, and destroying them by fire together with all rubbish collected.

Seventh. Take special care with regard to the general health of all within the isolation limits. See that all wounds or injuries, even the most trifling ones, receive immediate medical treatment, and prevent the people from using unboiled water or raw vegetables.

Eighth. In handling clothing or other articles suspected of being infected, inclose them in sacks soaked in sublimate solution, or in oiled paper wet with the same, when they are taken for disinfection. The sacks will be furnished as part of the equipment of the disinfecting staff.

Ninth. Corpses of pest patients should be wrapped in cloths saturated with sublimate solution, then again in oiled paper, and placed in coffins tightly made of boards not less than 1 inch in thickness, and finally cremated at the place assigned for that purpose.

Sec. III. The following regulations must be observed by all persons engaged in preventive disinfection, the medical treatment of the sick, or in transporting or handling corpses or infected articles:

First. Wash even the most trifling wounds or injuries of the body with sublimate solution, and then apply collodion or good adhesive plaster.

Second. When sending patients to hospital send at the same time, and with the patient, the clothing and bedding in use by them when taken ill and during the sickness, using for this purpose the sacks belonging to the disinfecting staff and stretchers freshly covered with oiled paper. The bodies of the patients should be covered with cloth and their faces with a layer of sublimate cotton, in order to prevent the dissemination of infection by the way. The stretcher and patient should be covered, over all, with a large sheet of cloth wet with sublimate solution.

Third. All clothing and bedding which has been used by the patient, together with the body cloths and oiled paper from the stretchers, must be burned as soon as the patient is admitted to the hospital.

Fourth. Select nurses from among healthy persons and see that they are free from even trifling wounds, including chilblains, chaps, or hangnails. The nails of nurses should be carefully cut short so as to prevent the accumulation of dirt under them. When any wounds or abrasions, even the slightest, are discovered among the nurses or other attendants, they must be immediately washed with sublimate solution and covered with collodion or good adhesive plaster.

Fifth. Nurses and other hospital attendants must be prevented from communicating with persons outside for a period of ten days after they have ceased to come into contact with the sick, and have been disinfected and have changed their clothing for clean disinfected apparel.

Sixth. All coolies and laborers engaged in sanitary work connected with pest must be made to wear "tsutsusodi" (tight-sleeved coats), "juban" (tight-sleeved undercoats), "momohiki" (tight trousers), and "tabi" (native socks), and due attention must be paid to any wounds or injuries of these people as provided in Article I, of this section. Over their clothing, as provided above, all these sanitary laborers should wear a large sack overall of cloth, tight at the neck and wrists and reaching to the feet, covering the whole body, and should wear also cotton gloves which have been dipped into sublimate solution and then dried.

Seventh. Coolies and laborers must be quartered in special boarding houses at the segregation camp, and their communication with outside people strictly prevented.

Eighth. All clothing worn by persons engaged in preventive disinfection, or about the sick, must be frequently changed, and, when taken off, first soaked in sublimate solution and then disinfected either by prolonged boiling in water, or by steam in a proper apparatus. All engaged in sanitary work connected with pest should take a daily bath, after which the body should be wiped with a cloth or sponge dipped in 1-10000 sublimate solution. Before changing clothes or preparing for the bath, the hands should be specially disinfected in 1-1000 sublimate solution. No eating, drinking, or smoking, should be allowed while on duty, and, before doing either when off duty, the hands should be washed and disinfected as just provided.

Ninth. In any case suspected to be of pest, with cough and dyspnoea, the face of the patient should, during examination or transfer, be covered by a cloth, or better, by sublimate cotton, and the physician and all attendants should, as soon as the nature of the case is suspected, cover their mouths and noses with a flat sponge, not less than 4 inches in diameter, which has been wrung out of 1-1000 sublimate solution; and this must be retained over the mouth and nose until the work is finished. This applies equally to all engaged in cleaning and disinfecting the house after the patient's removal.

NOTE.—The standard solution of sublimate referred to should be of a strength of, bichloride of mercury 1 part to water 1,000 parts, and to prevent accident and to render it easily recognized, should be colored a light pink by fuchsin or other anilin dye. This solution kills the bacillus of pest the instant it comes in contact with it.

The standard solution of sulphuric acid referred to should be of a strength of sulphuric acid 1 part to water 2,000 parts, and, as it is exceedingly cheap, safe, and easily prepared, can be used with the greatest freedom.